

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 70

To abolish the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2019

Mr. BIGGS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To abolish the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Freedom for Farmers  
5 Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. ABOLISHMENT OF AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES**  
7 **AND DISEASE REGISTRY.**

8 (a) ABOLISHMENT OF AGENCY.—The Agency for  
9 Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (in this section re-  
10 ferred to as the “Agency”) is abolished effective on the

1 date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this  
2 Act.

3 (b) TERMINATION OF FUNCTIONS.—Except as pro-  
4 vided in subsection (c)(1), all functions of the Agency shall  
5 terminate on the date specified in subsection (a).

6 (c) TRANSFERRED AUTHORITY.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Prior to the date specified in  
8 subsection (a), the Secretary of Health and Human  
9 Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-  
10 retary”) shall transfer the authority vested in the  
11 Agency by section 104(i)(1)(A) of the Comprehen-  
12 sive Environmental Response, Compensation, and  
13 Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9604(i)(1)(A)) as  
14 in effect on the day before the date of enactment of  
15 this Act (relating to a national registry of serious  
16 diseases and illnesses and a national registry of per-  
17 sons exposed to toxic substances) to an appropriate  
18 agency within the Department of Health and  
19 Human Services.

20 (2) CORRESPONDING TRANSFER OF ASSETS  
21 AND PERSONNEL.—In connection with the transfer  
22 of authority under paragraph (1), the Secretary may  
23 transfer within the Department of Health and  
24 Human Services such assets, funds, personnel,  
25 records, and other property relating to the trans-

1       ferred authority as the Secretary determines to be  
2       appropriate.

3       (d) WIND-UP PERIOD.—

4             (1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term  
5       “wind-up period” means the period beginning on the  
6       date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the  
7       date specified in subsection (a).

8             (2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Secretary shall be  
9       responsible for—

10            (A) the administration and wind-up, dur-  
11       ing the wind-up period, of all functions of the  
12       Agency that are terminated by this section;

13            (B) the administration and wind-up, dur-  
14       ing the wind-up period, of any outstanding obli-  
15       gations of the Federal Government under any  
16       programs of the Agency that are terminated by  
17       this section; and

18            (C) taking such other actions as may be  
19       necessary to wind-up any outstanding affairs of  
20       the Agency before the end of the wind-up pe-  
21       riod.

22       **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

23       (a) CERCLA.—The Comprehensive Environmental  
24       Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42  
25       U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) is amended—

1           (1) in section 104 (42 U.S.C. 9604), by amend-  
2           ing subsection (i) to read as follows:

3           “(i) The Secretary of Health and Human Services  
4 shall, in cooperation with the States, maintain a national  
5 registry of serious diseases and illnesses and a national  
6 registry of persons exposed to toxic substances.”;

7           (2) in section 111 (42 U.S.C. 9611)—

8                   (A) by striking subsection (c)(4); and

9                   (B) by striking subsection (m); and

10          (3) in section 310(a)(2) (42 U.S.C.  
11 9659(a)(2)), by striking “and the Administrator of  
12 the ATSDR”.

13          (b) OTHER CONFORMING CHANGES.—

14           (1) Section 2704 of title 10, United States  
15 Code, is amended by striking subsection (f).

16           (2) Section 405(d)(1) of the Toxic Substances  
17 Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601(d)(1)) is amended by  
18 striking “acting through the Director of the Agency  
19 for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry,”.

20           (3) Section 209(c)(1)(A) of the Fire Adminis-  
21 tration Authorization Act of 1992 (29 U.S.C.  
22 671a(c)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “the Admin-  
23 istrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Dis-  
24 ease Registry,”.

1           (4) Section 118(e)(3)(A) of the Federal Water  
2           Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(e)(3)(A)) is  
3           amended by striking “, in consultation with the Re-  
4           search Office, the Agency for Toxic Substances and  
5           Disease Registry, and Great Lakes States” and in-  
6           serting “, in consultation with the Research Office  
7           and Great Lakes States,”.

8           (5) Section 317F(a) of the Public Health Serv-  
9           ice Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–7(a)) is amended—

10           (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and the  
11           Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-  
12           istry”; and

13           (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “or the  
14           Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-  
15           istry”.

16           (6) Section 399S of the Public Health Service  
17           Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–7) is amended—

18           (A) in subsection (b)(1)(A)(i)—

19           (i) by inserting “and” at the end of  
20           subclause (II);

21           (ii) by striking subclause (III); and

22           (iii) by redesignating subclause (IV)  
23           as subclause (III); and

24           (B) in subsection (d)(1)(A)—

25           (i) by striking clause (iv); and

1 (ii) by redesignating clauses (v)  
2 through (vii) as clauses (iv) through (vi),  
3 respectively.

4 (7) Section 399V-6(e)(5) of the Public Health  
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-17(e)(5)) is amended  
6 by striking “and the Assessments of Chemical Expo-  
7 sures Program of the Agency for Toxic Substances  
8 and Disease Registry”.

9 (8) Section 3(c) of the ICCVAM Authorization  
10 Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 285l-3(c)) is amended—

11 (A) by striking paragraph (1); and

12 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2)  
13 through (16) as paragraphs (1) through (15),  
14 respectively.

15 (9) Section 2201(e) of the Water Infrastructure  
16 Improvements for the Nation Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-  
17 12 note) is amended by striking “the Director of the  
18 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry”  
19 each place it appears.

20 (10) Section 2203 of the Water Infrastructure  
21 Improvements for the Nation Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-  
22 27) is amended—

23 (A) in subsection (b), by striking “within  
24 the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease  
25 Registry or the Centers for Disease Control and

1 Prevention at the discretion of the Secretary”  
2 and inserting “within the Centers for Disease  
3 Control and Prevention”; and

4 (B) in subsection (c)(1)(A), by striking “,  
5 within the Agency for Toxic Substances and  
6 Disease Registry”.

7 (11) Section 709(a)(7) of the Security and Ac-  
8 countability for Every Port Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C.  
9 300hh–14(a)(7)) is amended by striking “the Agen-  
10 cy for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry,”.

11 (12) Section 3001 of the Solid Waste Disposal  
12 Act (42 U.S.C. 6921(b)(1)) is amended by striking  
13 “the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-  
14 istry and”.

15 (13) Section 3019 of the Solid Waste Disposal  
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 6939a) is amended—

17 (A) by striking subsections (b) through  
18 (g); and

19 (B) in subsection (a), by striking the sub-  
20 section designation and heading.

21 (14) Section 103(d)(2)(A) of the Clean Air Act  
22 (42 U.S.C. 7403(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking  
23 “the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-  
24 istry,”.

1           (c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this  
2 section apply beginning on the date specified in section  
3 2(a).

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